

**Washington, DC** - As Iowans prepare to honor our veterans over the Memorial Day weekend, Congressman Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) voted for a pair of bills that will expand health care for veterans, including a requirement to provide chiropractic care at all Veterans Affairs medical centers. Other legislation would provide service dog training therapy and increase reimbursements for health care professionals employed by the VA.

“There is no higher priority for me than assuring that our veterans have the highest quality health care possible,” Braley said. “As we prepare to honor the men and women who have sacrificed and fought bravely for the freedoms we enjoy, it is our duty to ensure we provide them with the best care possible when they return home. This legislation will provide critical reimbursements, therapy and chiropractic care that will improve the quality of life for many of America's veterans.”

The *Chiropractic Care Available to All Veterans Act* (H.R. 1017) would include chiropractic exams and care within required VA health care services. It also requires that all VA medical centers provide these services by December 31, 2013. It passed the House Monday by a vote of 265-6.

The *Assuring Quality Care for All Veterans Act* (H.R. 5145), which passed the House Tuesday afternoon, improves the professional education reimbursement provided to VA health professionals. The bill will increase the reimbursement and expand the program to include all health care professionals. Currently, the program only includes dentists and physicians.

The House is expected to vote this week on the *Veterans Dog Training Therapy Act* (H.R. 3885), requiring the VA to conduct a 5-year pilot program for relieving veterans' mental and stress disorders through training service dogs for vets with disabilities.

Braley has been a leader in Congress in working to improve care for our veterans. In April, he championed a key provision in the *Caregivers and Veterans Omnibus Health Services Act* to include Veterans Administration facilities in the National Health Service Corps. That bill, which was signed into law by President Obama earlier this month, also provides support for family members who care for disabled veterans, enhances health services for 1.8 million women veterans, expands mental health services and access to care in rural areas and relieves financial burdens for veterans who are catastrophically disabled.